

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

CIVIL ACTION NO. 12-11605-RWZ

ELIZABETH TYREE

v.

RAY H. LAHOOD,  
Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation

ORDER

November 25, 2013

ZOBEL, D.J.

In this action for employment discrimination and retaliation for filing a complaint with the EEOC, plaintiff Elizabeth Tyree has moved to compel responses to her interrogatories and three sets of document requests. Defendant opposes on the ground that the requests are excessive and the disputed information is irrelevant. The issue in the case, the alleged failure of defendant to complete certain documents to enable plaintiff to continue her research in an academic setting, does not warrant the breadth and detail plaintiff seeks. Her justification, that the requests “may also lead to relevant information,” misstates the governing rule. Under Fed. R. Civ. P 26(b)(1) plaintiff may request discovery that is relevant to her claim. Even if not admissible, relevant information is discoverable if it “appears reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence.” Because the interrogatories and document requests go well beyond the rule, the motion to compel is denied.

November 25, 2013

DATE

/s/Rya W. Zobel

RYA W. ZOBEL

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE